

BAROMETER—	9 A.M.	30.08
Do.	1 P.M.	30.00
Do.	4 P.M.	—
THERMOMETER—	9 A.M.	63
Do.	1 P.M.	66
Do.	4 P.M.	—
Do.	(Wet bulb) 9 A.M.	59
Do.	Do. 1 P.M.	60
Do.	Do. 4 P.M.	—
Do.	Maximum	68
Do.	Minimum over night	63

THE ETHICS OF DINING IN THE FAR EAST.

The N. Y. Daily News writes:—The poet Corneille's ideal of a cheerful evening was to close the shutters, draw the curtains, wheel the sofa up to the fire, and drink tea. We are far enough from the equator in Shanghai to be able to follow the poet in closing the shutters, drawing the curtains, and wheeling the sofa up to the fire, but we go beyond the poet's ideal, for we have the evening in China, but our lights have been widened by the process of the sun, or more, by the vast number of candles among us. To them we owe the amelioration and humanization of the winter evening gatherings which are so numerous in Shanghai; for if we work vigorously during the day, we enjoy ourselves with equal vigour in the evening. Where public evening amusements are infrequent, as they are here, private gatherings are necessarily encouraged; and there is no place where mutual hospitality is more cultivated than this. Shanghai is still small enough for everyone to know everybody else in the same rank of life, and large enough to oblige the same people meeting each other night after night. In a small party, the invited guest knows beforehand almost exactly how he will meet in Shanghai there is still the probability of surprise, which adds so much to the enjoyment.

Here, as everywhere indeed, the ideal dinner-party is still that which numbers more than the guests and less than the

Muses, and the hostess, who wishes to give a perfect dinner will have a round table, with eight covers in all. The party of sixteen or eighteen always involves the assumption that it is a killing-off function; that the hostess keeps a ledger book and credits account of hospitality received and accounted, and that the book is balanced every now and then by a big dinner. The ease of enjoyment of a dinner is to feel that we are not being asked to do more than we want to do, or when we want to meet; and then we can be happy with simple fare; but the most elaborate menu and most expensive wines fall to charm if we get the idea that we have only been invited because our acquaintances looked in their books and found that they owed us an invitation. A restraint, unnecessary to those who have not been struck with the same idea, begins at one corner of the table and spreads rapidly like an epidemic over the whole company, and by the time the third course is reached the meeting is even less festive than a funeral. In the days when "the cups went swiftly round, with no alloying of gall," a large dinner-party, however mechanically composed, became a social success, for the guests were forced to listen. Still less should any be forced, politely, to join in games, the refuge of the destitute; and of all games the most obnoxious are those which require pencils and paper and an intellectual strain which is so barbarous and cruel to exact after dinner. If much more would dinner-parties be enjoyed, if hostesses would but realize that the man who has been at work all day, and who sits quietly

in a corner of the drawing-room, saying a few words occasionally to his neighbor of the moment, may look bored but is really thoroughly enjoying the rest and change; and that if he is left alone to enjoy himself in his own way, he will go home feeling as well as saying that he has spent a really delightful evening. There is no warmer greater than that of being urged to amuse oneself. When the breaking-up time comes, there is one unreasonable but persistent regulation, whose abolition ought to be formally decreed by the proper authorities. It seems to be still held in polite society here that all the guests must remain until the lady who was-in on by the host has said good-bye. This is all very well where the principal guest is a personage whom the rest have been invited to meet, but it is absolutely unbearable where all are equal, as they generally are at Shanghai dinner-parties. It makes everybody uncomfortable; some of the guests have reasons for wanting to get home early, and they feel inwardly because the leading guest will not say good night; and the leading guest may have some reason for waiting until the rest are gone and yet she cannot but be conscious that the others are wishing she would go. The true joy of social intercourse is the chance of unnecessary restraint; will not the proper authorities here, the representatives of Mrs Grundy in Shanghai, declare this last restraint abolished?

To get a few flowers one must sow plenty of seed.—Whately.

ONE WOMAN'S NERVES. Looking backward to a certain lonely and unhappy time, a lady says: "I dragged on in this miserable condition for years, until I got tired of doctoring and taking stuff that did me no good. One physician called me for eighteen months, giving me but little relief. I slept only in a broken fashion, and arose in the morning very little the better, for having gone to bed. There was often severe pain in my head and over my eyes, and an almost constant sense of sickness. The skin gradually got dry and yellow, the stomach and bowels felt cold and dead, and the natural energy and warmth appeared to be ebbing out of me like the water out of a river at low tide. In June, 1889, whilst living at More-down, Bournemouth I had a worse attack than any I had before. I was taken with a feeling of cramp, as if pins and needles were running up and down my body. I could not move, and had to lie helpless in bed. The doctor was sent for, and attended me every day, but did not seem to know what to make of my case. In fact, he was puzzled, and finally said, 'I don't really know what your complaint is.' I trembled and shook and felt as if I should fall to pieces. I was first hot and then cold, and so dreadfully nervous I could not hear any one in the room with me, and yet I did not wish them far away in case I should call out for help. Every day at least three spasms came on I said to myself, 'I am sure I shall never get up again.' I took nothing but liquid food, and yet

could not retain even that on my stomach. By this time I was nothing but skin and bone. My legs went clumsy, as if I had no blood left in me. My memory completely failed. I never expected to recover, and that was the opinion of my friends. After they had called to see me they would go away saying, 'She will never get better.' My head ached so dreadfully I thought I should lose my senses. I had given up all hope, when one day my friend Mrs. West, of Bournemouth, called and asked what I was taking. I said, 'Oh, I'm tired of taking things; it's no use; I shall die.' Then she told me she was once ill much as I was, and was cured by Mother Seigel's Cerebral Syrup. 'Well,' I said, 'I'll try it if you will send for it.' She did so, and I seemed to feel better on taking the first dose, and after three days I was able to walk across the room, and by the end of the week I went down stairs. Now I am well as ever. All my nervousness has left me, and I can eat and digest my food without feeling any distress. I want to say finally, that I know about Mother Seigel's Cerebral Syrup, and should advise anyone who is suffering from any of the above-mentioned troubles, to try it. 'Oh, don't take it, for it will do you no good.' They said that because it was advertised, not because they knew for themselves. It was bad advice for me, and cost me years of torture. From what I have said—which is but part of my story—the people may infer that I think of this remedy. I thank God that I did resort to it at last before it was too late. (Signed) Mrs. Jane Foster, Darnest Road, Pokesdown, Bournemouth, Hants. March, 1890.

Insurance.
THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.
RUSSELL & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, November 14, 1890. 1954

THE UNDERWRITERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.
Company are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.
NORTON & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, July 16, 1887. 1340

Occidental & Oriental Steamship Company.
TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE, VIA THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ATLANTIC & OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

THE Steamship OCEANIC will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on THURSDAY, the 18th December, 1890, at 1 p.m., connection being made at Yokohama, with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports. All Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; and same will be received at the Company's Office until 5 p.m. the day previous to sailing. First-class Fare granted as follows:—To San Francisco ... \$225.00 To San Francisco and return ... 393.75 To Liverpool ... 325.00 To London ... 332.00 To other European ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application. Passengers by this Line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways. Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10%. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe. Circulars for the purpose of accompanying Cargo destined to points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco. For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 504, Queen's Road Central, O. D. HARMAN, Agent.

U. S. MAIL LINE.
PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND PORTING AT YOKOHAMA AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship CITY OF PITTSBURGH will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via YOKOHAMA, on TUESDAY, the 30th December, at 1 p.m., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe. Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Indian Oceans of the United States, via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers. Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers. First-class Fare granted as follows:—To San Francisco and return ... \$225.00 To San Francisco ... 393.75 To Liverpool ... 325.00 To London ... 332.00 To other European ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application. Passengers by this Line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways. Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10%. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe. Freight will be received on board until 4 p.m. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at the office until 5 p.m., same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required. Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office in Shanghai. Envelopes addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco. For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 504, Queen's Road Central, O. D. HARMAN, Agent.

Books, etc. without Covers.
Aberdeen Journal.
Bombay Gazette.
Colony Guardian.
Corriere della Sera.
Corriere de Val-de-Travers.
Christian World.
Christian World Pulpit.
Central New Jersey Times.
Detroit Free Press.
Dundee Herald.
Glasgow Weekly.
Good News.
Herald Review.
Journal de St. Petersburg.
Le Monde Illustré.
Life Upon Lines.
Modern Society.
Methodist Protestant.
Nautical Magazine.
New York Observer.
Nation.
People.
Public Ledger.
Pall Mall Budget.
Russian Review.
Review of Reviews.
Southern Cross.
Shanghai Daily Gazette.
Shipping Gazette.
The Record.
The Times.
Weekly Times.

Not Responsible for Debts.
Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor Owners will be Responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessels, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—
L. HAGEN, German barque, Captain Otto Busch.—Wieler & Co.
LOTHIAN, British barque, Capt. Thos. G. Evans.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.
MONTE, American barquentine, Capt. P. Bosch.—Soy Chong.
ST. NICHOLAS, American ship, Capt. C. F. Carver.—Douglas, Lipprick & Co.

SAILOR'S HOME.
ANY Cast-off Clothing, Books, or PAPERS will be thankfully received at the SAILOR'S HOME, West Point, Hongkong, July 26, 1887.

SHARE LIST.—QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong, Saturday Noon, 13th December, 1890.

STOCKS.	When Established.	Capital.	No. of Shares.	Par Value of Share.	Amount Paid-up per share.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.				Intrinsic value per share as per figures and at date of last Report.	Annual Yield to Investors at closing price, on basis of last Dividend.	CASH QUOTATIONS. (For Time Bargains see memo. at foot.)		
						Reserve Fund.	At credit of working a/c. or Bal. Brought forward.	DIVIDEND.				Closing.	Highest.	Lowest.
								Amount.	When paid.					
Banks.														
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank- ing Corporation	1855	7,500,000	40,000	125	all	\$5,482,127.20	\$148,302.40	{ 30 and 30% bonus for 1 yr. to 30/6/90 at 3/4 = \$14.90	Aug. 25, 90	\$218.92	6.75 per cent.	252 1/2 pr. cum new issue buyers	252 1/2 prem.	245 1/2 prem.
Marine Insurance.														
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	1867	2,500,000	10,000	250	25	770,000	{ \$ 331,691.68 estimated to 30 June 90	{ 28% = \$7 per sh. for 1889	Oct. 14, 90	\$108.24	7.25	\$90, buyers		
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.	1866	2,000,000	24,000	83.33	23	650,000	{ 204,329.19 18 per cent. for year ending 30/6/90	{ 18 per cent. for year ending 30/6/90	Sept. 12, 90	\$62.08	7.03	\$64, buyers		
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.	1863	1,000,000	6,000	200	40	Ts. 320,000.00	Tls. 423,721.78	{ 10 per cent. for 1889—Tls. 76.23 at 30/6/90	April 11, 90	Tls. 249.08	8.74	Tls. 300, sales and buyers		
Yantai Insur. Association, Ltd.	1862	800,000	8,000	100	all	\$10,617.50	—	{ \$6 per share for 1889	Mar. 12, 90	Tls. 109.48	4.87	Tls. 584, sellers		
Chinese Insurance Co., Ltd. (in liquidation)	1871	1,500,000	1,500	1,000	200	28,711.50	\$15,285.84	{ 3 per cent. for 1 yr. to 31/12/90 in all per cent. for 1889	April 3, 88	—	nominal			
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.	1881	2,500,000	10,000	250	50	500,000	{ \$ 430,423.12 estimated to 30 Sept. 90	{ 14% for 1889	Oct. 15, 90	\$100.00	5.98	\$117, buyers		
Straits Insurance Co. Ltd.	1886	3,000,000	30,000	100	20	80,000	{ \$ 184,054.63 to 31 Dec. 1888	{ 10% for 1889	April 5, 90	\$22.35	12.90	\$15 1/2, sellers		
Fire Insurance.														
Hongkong Fire Insur. Co., Ltd.	1868	2,000,000	8,000	250	50	1,096,049	\$303,349.20	{ \$23 p. sh. for 1888	Feb. 26, 90	\$182.00	6.96	\$330, buyers		
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	1870	2,000,000	20,000	100	20	700,000	{ 244,089.58 20 per cent. per year	{ \$4 per cent. for 1889	Feb. 26, 90	\$55.00	6.81	\$88, buyers		
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	1886	2,000,000	20,000	100	20	20,000	{ 100,813.08 for 1889	{ \$4 per cent. int. div. to 30/6/90	Mar. 14, 90	\$21.50	6.17	\$17, buyers		
Fire and Marine Insurance.														
Singapore Insurance Co., Ltd.	1884	4,000,000	40,000	100	20	11,875.01	{ \$ 185,019.92 at 31/12/89	{ 3 1/2% for yr. end- ing 31 Dec. 1888	April 28, 90	\$20.00	9.33	\$7 1/2, sales		
Docks and Wharves.														
Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	1866	1,500,000	12,500	125	all	—	\$ 26,736.33	{ 15 p. e. for 6 months ending 30/6/90	Aug. 26, 90	\$131.93	6.00	78 1/2 prem., buyers	\$78 1/2	\$76
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Limited	1866	1,000,000	20,000	50	all	—	—	{ Final div. 29 p. sh. 30/6/90 ending 31/12/89= \$3.25 p. share for 1889	June 30, 90	—	4.16	\$78, buyers		
Shipping.														
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steam-boat Co., Limited	1865	1,000,000	80,000	20	all	{ \$ 50,000 (+) \$850,000	{ \$ 30,800.42 10 per cent. div. for 6 months ending 30/6/90	{ 10 per cent. div. for 6 months ending 30/6/90	Aug. 2, 90	\$31.63	0.57 per cent.	\$36 1/2, sellers		
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Limited	1882	1,200,000	60,000	10	all	{ \$ 64.01 = 1 share	{ \$ 6,126.13	{ 3% for yr. end- ing 31 Dec. 1889	June 20, 90	\$10.70	3.46	25% dis., sales		
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.	1883	1,000,000	20,000	50	all	\$ 347,553.31	\$ 2,700.56	{ 1 1/2% for 1890	Sept. 22, 90	\$68.83	4.78	\$47, buyers		
China & Manila S. S. Co., Ltd.	1882	175,000	3,500	50	all	55,000	\$ 2,461.60	{ 16 per cent. \$3 p. sh. for yr. ending 31/12/89	Mar. 10, 90	\$37.09	6.10	\$131, sellers par, nom.		
Steam Launch Company, Ltd.	1888	100,000	2,000	50	30	—	\$ 302.00	—	—	par nominal				
Refineries.														
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.	1878	1,500,000	15,000	100	all	—	\$ 11,873.95	{ 4% int. di. for 1/2 yr.	Aug. 10, 90	\$100.79	4.62	\$173, sellers	\$174	\$171
Lazoo Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.	1882	700,000	7,000	100	all	—	\$ 143.22	{ 35 int. div. for 1/2 yr.	Aug. 12, 90	\$102.73	10.50	\$93, sellers	\$103	\$95
Lands and Trusts.														
Hongkong Land Investment & Agency Company, Ltd.	1889	5,000,000	50,000	100	50	1,250,000	{ \$ 401.04 to 31/12/89	{ \$2 1/2 per sh. int. div. for 6 months ending 30/6/90	July 28, 90	\$74.91	5.55	\$90, buyers		
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Ltd.	1889	500,000	6,000	50	30	—	{ \$ 1,037.15 to 31/12/89	—	—	—		\$14, buyers		
Trust & Loan Co. of China, Ltd.	1889	1,000,000	10,000	100	10	—	{ \$ 1,230.42 to 31/12/89	—	—	—		\$194, buyers		
Tramways.														
Hongkong High-Level Tram- ways Company, Limited	1887	125,000	1,250	100	all	—	\$ 214.55	—	—	par nominal		\$110, sellers		
Mining.														
(a) The Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	1888	180,000	18,000	10	all	—	—	—	—	—		\$11, sales		
(b) Teikoku Mining & Trd. Co., Ltd.	1889	225,000	15,000	5	all	—	—	—	—	—		\$13, sellers		
(c) Selama Tin Mining Com- pany, Limited,	1889	575,000	11,500	5	2	—	—	—	—	—		\$2, sellers		
Panama & San Pedro de Macoris Mining Co., Ltd.	1889	900,000	60,000	10	all	—	—	—	—	—		\$3, buyers		
Scioles Freres des Charbon- nages du Tonkin	1888	4,000,000	8,000	500	all ex. 1888	—	—	—	—	—		\$475, buyers		
(e) Inaurie Mines, Limited	1889	175,000	17,500	1	all	—	—	—	—	—		\$11, buyers		
Raub Mines	—	1,000,000	10,000	1	17/8	—	—	—	—	—		\$1.25, buyers		
Planting, &c.														
East Borneo Planting Co., Ltd.	1888	200,000	4,000	50	all	—	—	—	—	—		\$15, nom.		
(a) Seng Kah Planting Co., Ltd.	1888	200,000	4,000	50	40	—	—	—	—	—		\$10, nom.		
China-Borneo Company, Limited	1888	750,000	7,500	100	50	—	—	—	—	—		\$10, nom.		
(a) Labuk Planting Co., Limited	1889	250,000	5,000	50	30	—	—	—	—	—		\$25, buyers		
(b) H. G. Brown & Co., Limited	1889	300,000	3,000	50	all	—	—	—	—	—		\$63		
(c) The Lagan Planting Co., Ltd.	1889	300,000	3,000	50	25	—	—	—	—	—		\$12, sellers		
Hotels, Buildings, &c.														
Hongkong Hotel Co., Limited ..	1866	300,000	3,000	100	all	—	\$ 3,477.11	{ 3% for 6 months end- ing 30/6/90	Sept. 7, 90	\$100.00	3.52	\$170, nom.		
Anatin Arms Hotel & Building Company, Limited	1888	200,000	4,000	50	50	—	—	—	—	—		nominal.		
Peak Hotel & Trading Co., Ltd.	1889	200,000	4,000	50	35	—	—	—	—	—		\$20, sales		
West Point Building Co., Ltd.	1889	625,000	12,500	50	4	—	—	—	—	—		\$31, nom.		
Shanghai Hotel & Land Co., Ltd.	1889	100,000	1,000	20	20	—	—	—	—	—		\$18, nom.		
Richmond Terrace Hotel and Building Company, Ltd.	1889	100,000	1,000	10	all	—	—	—	—	—		\$200, nom.		
Borneo Hotel & Stores Co., Ltd.	—	50,000	1,000	50	30	—	—	—	—	—		\$30, nom.		
Dispensaries.														
A. S. Watson & Co., Limited	1886	500,000	5,000	1	all	{ \$140,000 "15,000 "10,000	\$ 1,413.88	{ 17 per cent. int. div. 30/6/90 for yr. end. 31/12/89	Nov. 5, 90	\$12.65	6.32	\$20 1/2, sellers		
Cruickshank & Co., Limited	1888	80,000	1,000	50	all	—	—	{ 3% for 6 months end- ing 31/6/90	Oct. 1, 89	par nominal	11.11	nominal.		
Lighting.														
Hongkong & China (old issue Gas Co., Limited (new)	1864	50,000	5,000	10	all	\$ 10,843.77	\$ 1,711.19	{ 10 per cent. for year ending 31/12/89, 22 per cent. bonus for do.	Apr. 17, 89	{ £11.18.10 \$9.16	6.29	\$130, nom.		
Hongkong Electric Co., Limited	1889	300,000	3,000	10	8	—	—	—	—	—		\$9, buyers		
Iron Foundries.														
Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited	1889	150,000	6,000	25	all	1,000	295.81	{ 10% for 1889	Feb. 24, 90	par		\$23, nom.		
A. G. Gordon & Co., Limited	1889	150,000	6,000	25	20	—	\$ 1,582.62	{ int. div. off \$1 p. sh. for 6 months	July 31, 89	\$21.13		par, nom.		
Brick and Cement.														
Hongkong Brick and Cement Company, Limited	1886	100,000	4,000	25	17 1/2	—	—	—	—	—		\$12, nom.		
Green Island Cement Company Limited	1889	1,000,000	20,000	50	50	—	—	—	—	—		\$22, sellers	\$23 1/2	\$22
Miscellaneous.														
Hongkong Tea Co., Limited	1891	125,000	5,000	25	all	\$ 46,000	\$ 7,896.78	{ 8% int. div.	Aug. 8, 90	\$35.78	4.39	\$91, sellers		
HK & China Bakery Co., Ltd.	1872	30,000	600	50	all	—	\$ 603.10	{ \$4 1/2 sh. for year end- ing 31/12/89	Mar. 14, 90	\$30.83	5.88	\$76, nom.		
P.K. Naps Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	1883	150,000	3,000	50	all	15,000	\$ 733.92	{ 12 per cent. = \$6 per share for 1889	Feb. 22, 90	\$54.24	4.44	\$135, sellers		
Dairy Farm Co., Limited	1886	100,000	10,000	10	all	—	—	—	—	—		\$5.00		
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	1888	12,000	1,200	10	all	—	—	—	—	—		\$10, nom.		
Marinburg Furniture Co., Ltd.	1889	75,000	3,000	25	6	—	\$ 154.77	{ 12% for 1889	May 16, 90	par		nominal.		